

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 were pending. Claims 1, 5, 7-17, 21, and 23-32 have been amended. Independent claims 1, and 17 have been amended to respectively incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 6 and 22 and, therefore, claims 6 and 22 have been cancelled. Claims 33-34 are newly submitted. The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-21, and 23-34 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 12-16 and 28-30, and for indicating that claims 6-11 and 22-27 recite allowable subject matter.

II. The § 103 Rejections

Claims 1-5 and 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,848,682 ("Bauer").

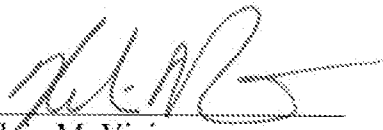
Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 17 to incorporate the limitations of claims 6 and 22, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 17 (and the claims that depend therefrom) are now in condition for allowance.

Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date


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